

The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

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THURSDAY, MAY 18, 1899.

四拜禮

號八十月五年英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

Banks.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1886.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....Yen 12,000,000
PAID-UP CAPITAL.....10,500,000
RESERVE FUND.....7,300,000

Head Office—YOKOHAMA.

Branches and Agencies.

Kobe. NEW YORK.
LONDON. LYONS.
SAN FRANCISCO. HONOLULU.
BOMBAY. SHANGHAI.

LONDON BANKERS:
THE LONDON JOINT STOCK BANK, LD.
PARIS BANK, LD.
THE UNION BANK OF LONDON, LD.

HONGKONG AGENCY—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent
per Annum on the Daily Balance.
On fixed deposits for 12 months at 5 per cent.

S. CHOI, Agent.

Hongkong, 7th April, 1899. [32]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED.

Authorised Capital.....£1,000,000

Paid up Capital.....£324,374

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Board of Directors—
E. Burnie, Esq., D. Gillies, Esq.,
Chan Kit Shan, Esq., Kwan Hoi Chuen, Esq.,
Chow Tung Shing, Esq., J. T. Maule, Esq.,
Chief Manager—
GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed.....5
Hongkong, 24th March, 1899. [8]

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000
RESERVE FUND.....\$10,000,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS.....\$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS—
R. M. GRAY, Esq., Chairman.
N. A. STEIN, Esq., Deputy Chairman.
E. Goetz, Esq.

A. Haubi, Esq., J. J. Raymond, Esq.,
R. H. Hill, Esq., P. Sachs, Esq.,
The Hon. J. J. Kewick, Esq., E. Shellim, Esq.,
A. McConachie, Esq., R. Shewan, Esq.,
Chief Manager—
Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

Shanghai—J. P. WARD, Esq.,
LONDON—BANKERS, LONDON AND COUNTY
BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.
HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.
On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent
per Annum on the daily balance.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS—
For 3 months, 2 1/2 per cent per Annum.
For 6 months, 3 1/2 per cent per Annum.
For 12 months, 4 1/2 per cent per Annum.
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1899. [9]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION is conducted by CORPORATION. Rules may be obtained on application. Interest on deposits is allowed at 3 1/2 per cent per annum. Depositors may transfer at their option from \$1000 or more to the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED DEPOSIT at 4 1/2 per cent per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION,
T. JACKSON,
Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1899. [10]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP.....£800,000
RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.....£800,000
RESERVE FUND.....£450,000

INTEREST ALLOWED ON CURRENT ACCOUNT at the rate of 2 per cent per annum on the Daily Balance.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months.....4 per cent.

T. H. WHITEHEAD,
Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 24th May, 1899. [31]

IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA.

ESTABLISHED BY IMPERIAL DECREE OF THE 12TH NOVEMBER, 1895.

Shanghai Office.

SUBSCRIBED CAPITAL.....\$10,000,000

PAID-UP CAPITAL.....\$5,000,000

Head Office—SHANGHAI.

Branches and Agencies.
CANTON. HANKOW.
CHEFOO. PEKING.
CHINKIANG. SWATOW.
FOOCHOW. TIENTSIN.

THE Bank purchases and receives for collection Bills of Exchange drawn on the above places, and Sells Drafts and Telegraphic Transfers Payable at its Branches and Agencies.

HONGKONG BRANCH.
Advances made on approved securities.
Bills discounted.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS.
3 1/2 per Annum Fixed Deposits for 6 months.

E. W. RUTTER,
Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 7th October, 1899. [247]

Intimations.

PENINSULAR AND ORIENTAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

(For Particulars See Special Advertisement.)

FOR STEAMERS CAPTAINS TO SAIL. REMARKS

JAPAN, &c. Japan* G. K. Wright, R.N.R. 5 P.M., 20th May Freight or Passage.

SHANGHAI Nubia G. C. Henning, R.N.R. About 26th May Freight or Passage.

LONDON, &c. Parramatta A. Symons Noon, 27th May Freight or Passage.

JAPAN Rosetta C. C. Talbot 4 P.M., 27th May Freight or Passage.

LONDON Java J. Cheliew, R.N.R. About 1st June Freight or Passage.

(Passing through the Inland Sea.) (See Special Advertisement.)

For Further Particulars apply to

H. A. RITCHIE, Superintendent.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1899. [5]

HONGKONG HOTEL

BOARD

AND

RESIDENCE.

On Monthly Terms from 1st May, 1899.

CHOICE OLD DINNER-SHERRIES.

Amontillado (dry delicate) Red seal.

Solera Yellow

La Infanta (very dry) White

Choice (old golden) Light blue

Amoroso (old golden) Green

Solera Reserva, 1820 Red

CALBECK, MACGREGOR & CO.,

WINE AND SPIRIT MERCHANTS.

15, Queen's Road,

Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [15]

THE CLUB HOTEL LIMITED.

No. 5-B, BUND, YOKOHAMA.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL Centrally situated, well furnished and supplied with excellent Cuisine and Good Wines.

The Company's Steam-lunch attends the arrival and departure of all Mail Steamers.

Special attention paid to the Comfort of Visitors.

E. V. SIOEN, Manager.

Yokohama, 1st October, 1897. [36]

JUBILEE PILSENER BEER

PER CASE OF 1 DOZ. QUARTS

OR

6 DOZ. PINTS.....\$13.00.

SOLE AGENTS,

H. PRICE & Co.,

15, QUEEN'S ROAD.

W. POWELL & CO.

11, S.S. "SHANGHAI"

NEW STOCK OF LADIES

TRIMMED & UNTRIMMED MILLINERY.

NEW FLOWERS, FEATHERS, LACES, RIBBONS, &c.

Hongkong, 10th March, 1899. [12]

Intimations.

UNITED ASBESTOS ORIENTAL AGENCY, LIMITED.

SOLE AGENTS IN HONGKONG, CHINA, JAPAN, AND THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

FOR THE UNITED ASBESTOS CO., LD., LONDON.

CONTRACTORS TO H.M. GOVERNMENT.

MANUFACTURERS OF THE BEST QUALITIES OF ASBESTOS GOODS AND PACKINGS.

HYDRAULIC and SELF LUBRICATING PUMP PACKINGS, of all kinds.

"VICTOR" METALLIC BOILER JOINTS.

ASBESTOS SALAMANDER BOILER COVERING COMPOSITION of the best qualities.

ESTIMATES given for every DESCRIPTION of WORK.

SUPERINTENDENT—THOS. SKINNER

DOUGLAS & CO., LIMITED, General Agents.

PEAK HOTEL

AND

CRAIGIEBURN.

THE PEAK HOTEL is situated at VICTORIA GAP, adjoining the TRAMWAY TERMINUS, 630 feet above sea level.

CRAIGIEBURN is situated at BLUNKET'S GAP, five minutes walk from the PEAK HOTEL.

Fine Healthy location, variety of beautiful scenery. Cool Southerly breezes in Summer with perfect protection against the North East Winds in Winter.

Well appointed rooms, attentive service and excellent Cuisine.

CITY OFFICE, 7, Duddell Street.

Hongkong, 4th January, 1899. [38]

GEO. J. CASANOVA, Manager.

IMMUNITY

FROM

INFECTION.

A DEMAND HAS BEEN CREATED FOR

'ESSETS' FLUID

A PERFECT DISINFECTANT (NON-POISONOUS).

A SURE PREVENTIVE OF ALL KINDS OF CONTAGIOUS DISEASES.

SOLE AGENTS—WATKINS & CO.

Hongkong, 6th May, 1899. [14]

THE PHARMACY

HAVE NOW A LARGE ASSORTMENT OF ATKINSON'S PERFUMES AND ARE SOLE MANUFACTURERS OF

WHITE HEATHER BOUQUET.

Sole Agents for VIN PASTEUR the great French Nerve Tonic.

Also Sole Agents for the now well-known JAPANESE TABLE WATER

TANSAN.

FLETCHER & CO., and CARMICHAEL & CO.

12th October, 1898. [1242]

PROF. H. FRANKEL, AMERICAN

SURGEON-CHIROPODIST.

UNDER TAKES to extract Corns, and to cure Warts, Bunions and Ingrowing Toe-nails.

TERMS MODERATE.

ADDRESS—54-56 Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1899. [588A]

NOTICE.

WHY

ARE POLICIES OF THE EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY OF THE UNITED STATES to be preferred before those of any other Company?

BECAUSE Equitable Policies are to the intending assurers what Consols are to the investor.

BECAUSE the Equitable is the strongest Life Company in the world, having over 11 Millions sterling of Surplus; and

BECAUSE Surplus not only means financial strength, but is also the fund from which dividends to policyholders are paid.

BECAUSE Dividends to policyholders must be earned before they can be paid, and during the last ten years the Equitable's Surplus Earnings have been larger than those of any other Company.

BECAUSE during the past five years the Equitable has paid each year more than £400,000 in dividends to policyholders. No other Company can point to such a record.

BECAUSE the Policies of the Equitable are paid more promptly than those of any other Company.

AND THEREFORE BECAUSE a man assuring the Equitable secures a contract backed by the Company which is the strongest in the world, which earns greater profits, and which pays its Policies more promptly than any other Company.

Assets—£55,826,997. Sig. Surplus—£21,959,485. Sig. Reserve—£1,000,000.

Agents—Messrs. R. J. KENNEDY & Co., Ltd., 11, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 11th May, 1899. [1599A]

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

AN INTERIM BONUS of Twenty per cent. upon contributions for the year 1898 has been declared.

Warrants will be issued on the 1st May.

By Order of the Board.

DOUGLAS JONES, Secretary.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1899. [1538A]

FACILITIES FOR ICE AT KOWLOON.

THE HONGKONG ICE CO., LIMITED, having appointed me Agent for the sale of their ICE at KOWLOON, residents of that District are informed that Ice can now be had at my Store there, at HONGKONG RATES.

H. RUTTON JEE, Elgin Street, Kowloon.

Hongkong, 3rd May, 1899. [616A]

CARBOLINEUM AVERNARIUS

USED FOR OVER 20 YEARS.

With the Utmost Success.

Thoroughly reliable preservative for Wood and Stone against White Ant, Decay, Fungus, Rot and Dampness.

Sole Agents for China, Messrs. J. H. B. SMITH & Co., Ltd., 11, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 11th May, 1899. [1599A]

Intimations.

INSURANCE HOLIDAYS.

THE Undersigned INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 22nd instant (WHIT MONDAY) and on WEDNESDAY, the 24th idem, the Anniversary of the Birthday of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Agents.

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LD., General Managers.

HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

DOUGLAS JONES, Secretary.

UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LD., Agent.

NORTH CHINA INSURANCE CO., LD., A. S. GARFIT, Acting Secretary.

CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LIMITED.

SHEWAN TOMES & CO., Agents.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LIMITED.

GEO. L. TOMLIN, Secretary.

CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LD., W. H. T. DAVIS, Local Manager.

THE STRAITS INSURANCE CO., LD., Hongkong, 16th May, 1899. [662A]

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875, the Undersigned BANKS will be CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business on MONDAY, the 22nd instant (WHIT MONDAY), and on WEDNESDAY, the 24th idem, the Anniversary of the BIRTHDAY of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA AND CHINA, T. H. WHITEHEAD, Manager, Hongkong.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION, V. A. CASAR HAWKINS, Acting Manager.

For the NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA, LIMITED, G. W. F. PLAYFAIR, Chief Manager.

For the MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA, LIMITED, JOHN THURBURN, Manager, Hongkong.

For the BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE, Hongkong Agency, L. BERINDOAGUE, Acting Manager.

For the BANK OF CHINA & JAPAN, LIMITED, HONGKONG, CHANTREY INCHBALD, Manager.

For the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED, S. CHOI, Agent.

For the IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA, E. W. TUTTER, Acting Manager.

Hongkong, 15th May, 1899. [1652A]

Insurance.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned AGENTS of the above company are prepared to accept First Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & Co., Hongkong, 28th May, 1899. [118]

To be Let.

TO LET.

ROOMS with or without BOARD, in CENTRAL POSITION. Summer Rates.

Apply to

of this Office.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [664A]

TO LET.

AT THE PEAK.

WITH IMMEDIATE POSSESSION.

A FIVE-ROOMED BUNGALOW, situated on MOUNT GOUGH called KIRKENDALL.

Apply to

H. L. DENNIS, Supreme Court.

Hongkong, 3th May, 1899. [149A]

TO LET.

OFFICE ROOMS on 1st floor of No. 4, Queen's Road, Central, (facing the 1st IMPERIAL BANK OF CHINA).

Apply to

Comptroller Office.

E. C. HOCHAPPEL.

Hongkong, 23rd March, 1899. [1398A]

Hotel.

WINDSOR HOTEL, HONGKONG.

STRICTLY FIRST CLASS.

PASSENGER ELEVATOR from ENTRANCE HALL to each floor. BOARD and LODGING.

MONTHLY RATES GIVEN NOW.

T. BOHN, Proprietor & Manager.

Hongkong, 26th April, 1899. [147A]

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.

CHRONOMETER, WATCH, and CLOCK MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER SMITHS, and OPTICIANS.

CHARTS and INSTRUMENTS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for the Straits Settlements, Singapore, and the F.M.S., Messrs. J. H. B. SMITH & Co., Ltd., 11, Queen's Road, Hongkong.

A CHINESE LOVE STORY.

A CURIOUS CASE.

In the Mixed Court, Shanghai, on the 12th inst. an interesting story of love and hate was heard. The proceedings were the outcome of a love affair which had been going on for some years, and which had culminated in one man being sentenced to two hundred blows and six months imprisonment for bolting off with another man's concubine. Kor Chay Yuen, a strolling actor, was arrested by a Municipal Council detective on March 21st last at the instance of a Chinese merchant named Ching Ching-kwei, taken to the Lower Station, and subsequently confined up to for three days and nights. The Magistrate, Mr. Chang's Deputy, put the actor on his trial together with the concubine. It was between eight and nine in the evening and as there were so many actors and others around, the Magistrate postponed the hearing till 11 o'clock at night, when he ordered the girl to receive 100 blows on her back. The actor, however, begged the Magistrate to let the girl go, and inflict a double punishment upon him. His entreaties were so pressed that as the girl was about to receive her hundred blows on her back the magistrate ordered her to receive one hundred blows on the face instead and then go back to her husband. The amorous actor was then given his two hundred blows, and sent off to the jail. It appears that the other actors in the Chinese Theatres within the Settlement were also present, and the result was an application yesterday for the imprisoned actor's release, or that inasmuch as the proceedings had been irregular, a re-hearing of the case should take place.

After argument by the attorneys the prosecutor, Ching Ching Yuen, stated that about ten years ago he bought the concubine in question for \$1,100. He paid half down for her, and then went to live in the Fukien Road. She was frequently removed to a place immediately behind the Louka Police Station. He knew the actor, but never spoken to him. On the evening of March 7th he knocked at the back door, and the servant opened it. Going to the room next to that occupied by the amah he knocked and found it locked. He knocked a second time, and presently the concubine opened the door. She was partially disrobed, and noticing that he walked hurriedly into another room. At first he saw nothing to surprise him, but eventually to his great surprise the prisoner made his appearance, and struck at him. He had not the slightest idea that the girl was inhuman until his rich man told him. When he asked her she started throwing the articles of furniture all over the floor. She got hold of his queue and said she would stake her life against his at any time. At that time he was sitting on the bed and the actor ran up and slapped him in the face. He then said, "I have spent a lot of money on her, and both her and her children belong to me."

The Magistrate at this stage shook his fan at the prisoner, and said, "You ought to be ashamed of yourself, taking away another man's wife." The prosecutor also stated that the prisoner threatened him with a knife.

The Magistrate (shaking his fist at the prisoner) "What do you mean by it?" Continuing the witness stated that he only had one residence within the Settlement, and in that he kept his wife upstairs, and his concubine downstairs. Both women were not on good terms, but the reason was unexplainable. He often went to the theatre at night, and sometimes took the concubine. He used to see the actor, but only knew him by sight. It therefore came as a thorough surprise to see that gentleman in his room. He was not sure that he had when dining at the restaurant next to his rich man's house to see when the actor made his appearance. He had spent a lot of money on the girl; in fact everything necessary had been given her, but he did not know whether the actor had spent money upon her lavishly. He paid over \$100 monthly to both of the women.

The prisoner said he was an actor earning \$200 a month. He had while taking his part on the stage repeatedly seen the girl, and had made her acquaintance five years ago. He used to visit her about ten or twenty times a month, and the prosecutor knew it. Indeed the latter used to visit him in the green room and they often used to go out to supper and entertain each other. The prosecutor knew fully well four years ago that he had relations with the girl.

The Magistrate (to prisoner): You ought to be ashamed of yourself stealing another man's wife (laughter).

The prosecutor, recalled, said that before he purchased the girl he used to go to the theatre very often, but after his prize had been won he did not visit that place for amusement. It was impossible for him to find out why his wife and concubine were not on good terms for he gave them all the necessities they needed.

The rich man employed by the prosecutor stated that on the night of the disturbance at the house he went to call his master who was at a restaurant in the Fookchow Road—his mistress had told him to do so, as she felt very bad and wanted to see him. When he told his master the latter hurried away to the house only to find the actor there.

The Magistrate here jumped up from his chair, shook his fan at the prisoner, and said, "You are very angry to think that a man should enter into another man's house during his absence. Inspector Wilson said he had been fifteen or sixteen years in Police service, and he knew characters."

The Magistrate shaking his fan towards the prisoner, "Isn't one wife enough for you?" The Interpreter. The Magistrate says he does not like to hear of it. His anger rises, and his temper gets up.

A young lady witness stated she had been 13 years in married life, and although she had seen the concubine in question she did not know her intimately.

Counsel addressed the Court and eventually Mr. Mayors, the Assessor stated that the Magistrate had been advised by him and had determined to accept his advice and send the prisoner to the Chinese City to be dealt with by the Chinese authorities.

KHARTOUM'S GOVERNOR.

Brevet Colonel J. G. Maxwell, who is to be the new Governor of Khartoum, entered the army quite twenty years ago as a Lieutenant in the Black Watch. He served with his regiment at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, and has been in Egypt and the Sudan ever since. From 1883 to 1885 he was a staff captain of the Egyptian military police, and was employed in the Nile Expedition of 1884-5. Since 1886 Colonel Maxwell has been specially employed with the Egyptian Army, and in 1890 he accompanied the expedition to Dongola in command of the 3rd Infantry Brigade. Again he was mentioned in despatches and received brevet promotion. In 1897 he was placed in command of the Nubia district, and on the renewal of active hostilities was transferred to the command of the 2nd Infantry Brigade, Egyptian Army.

THE GREAT REVIEW AT PEKING.

We (*China Gazette*) understand that the determination of the Empress Dowager and the Generalissimo, Jungh, to hold their big review of 200,000 troops at Peking this month is likely to lead China into very serious trouble if not abandoned. The various Legations have already pointed out the dangers of such a gathering, and it is reported that there is a whole army corps ready at Port Arthur to be despatched to Peking in the event of the review being held and disorder or danger to foreigners ensuing.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The use of wireless telegraphy as a means of communicating from lightships to the shore in case of shipwreck was put to its first practical test on March 11th. The barquentine *Elbe* went ashore at the South end of Goodwin Sands, and the South Goodwin light vessel fired distress signals; a thick fog prevailing at the time. The signals were heard on the East Goodwin lightship, where a wireless telegraphy apparatus is fixed, and a message was sent by that means to the South Foreland lightship, whence telegraphic messages were passed on to Kingsdown and Ramsgate for boats to put out. At Ramsgate, however, the South Goodwin's signals and also those from the Gull lightship, had been heard, and the lifeboats had already started, but the *Elbe* had floated before the lifeboats arrived. It often happens that when the wind is blowing offshore the guns on the lightship cannot be heard on land, and it is in such cases that wireless telegraphy would be of inestimable service in saving life and property.

Perhaps the most important demerit of so far made has been the impossibility of exploding a magazine on board a modern ship by means of the electric wave. In the first place it would be necessary to have an operator placed on the ship to be destroyed and even then it would be impossible to transmit the wave through iron. Placing the instrument in an iron cage will prevent the waves from reaching their destination and a zinc screen also stops them. On account of the length of the waves, their energy is absorbed differently by different substances. Glass absorbs nearly all, and paraffin and hard rubber absorb hardly any, and they move through hard rubber and paraffin as light moves through air, glass or water; that is to say, with hardly any resistance; while glass is very little of them through, and metal and water are impervious to them. It is estimated that the waves travel at the rate of 186,000 miles a second. At this rate they could reach the sun in eight minutes. Military authorities state it is possible to fire guns 500 yards away by means of a spark thrown that distance.

LIQUID FUEL AT SHANGHAI.

The arrival of the steamer *Trigonia* with a cargo of petroleum fuel will probably prove of the utmost importance to this steadily smoke-laden city, says the *N. C. Daily News*. This fuel has been tried here with great success already, when its benefits are more fully appreciated there will be doubtless an enormous demand for it. Its principal merit is that, properly consumed, it is smokeless; that weight for weight it is about the same price as the best Japanese coal at present prices and gives two-thirds more heat. Its other advantages are that it is more easily handled, requires fewer hands at the furnace, and leaves no residue. The Cotton Mill and Silk Filature Co. have evidently taken the subject in hand, for the Sookchow Cotton Mill has already one of its boilers fitted with oil-burning furnaces and will soon have the remainder similarly adjusted, and a number of others likewise interested are making arrangements for the conversion of their plants. Messrs. S. C. Farham and Co. are building a steam-launch for the Agents (Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.) which is also designed for oil consumption.

THE "BENJAMIN SEWELL" CASE.

The inquiry into the charges against Captain Arthur Sewell and chief officer Harvey, of the American ship *Benjamin Sewell*, in connection with the disappearance of one of the crew, and the discovery of the body of a drowned man on the shore in Penang harbour, closed on Wednesday, 26th April, by the defendants being committed for trial at the next Assizes. The bail was enlarged to \$2,500 in Assizes. Counsel for the defence applied for an early date for the trial. A discussion then ensued between Mr. Adams, defendants Counsel, and the Solicitor-General as to whether the police had the right to prevent the two accused, who are out on bail, from leaving the settlement. Mr. Adams ultimately gave formal notice to the Solicitor-General that the ship would leave for Singapore on the following Wednesday, and challenged him to take any steps to prevent it.

LAKE KAWAGUCHI.

Another correspondent writes about what he calls, with apparent justice, a foolish scheme, namely the draining of Kawaguchi Lake; and the conversion of its bed into rice-fields. If the plan is carried out, it can scarcely fail to inflict loss on both Japanese and foreigners. Many people regard this lake as the most beautiful in Japan. Whether it deserves such a very high eulogy we do not know, but certainly it has scenic charms of the highest type, and its effacement would be an infinitely regrettable act from that point of view alone. Then there is the practical question. Undoubtedly a lake situated at an altitude of 2,800 feet must have a great effect on the water-supply of the surrounding country. As a Valley, the lake is the source of the Fujiwara Valley, and almost entirely dependent upon the lake of which the Kawaguchi catchment of water is one, and a small difference in the level of the lake means a great difference in the volume of water received by the streams. This is a point of much importance, and it should be carefully investigated before any project for the draining of the lake is permitted. Then again, the water of the lake would have to be run into the Banyu-gawa, a river which already works havoc in Kanagawa Prefecture in times of flood, one of its frequent fates being to wash away the railway at Hiratsuka. Suppose that the volume of water now carried off by the Banyu-gawa be augmented by the contents of a lake 5 miles long, three-quarters of a mile wide, and subject to rises of from 10 to 15 feet in 48 hours, can there be any doubt that the river's floods would acquire destructive potentialities such as might cost Kanagawa Prefecture more in one season than the people who drained the lake would obtain in a century? Indeed, the profit derived from such a reclamation might be illusory, for the bed of the lake seems to be chiefly lava rock, quite unfitted for purposes of agriculture. The scheme appears to us to be wild and rash. We venture to hope that it will not be lightly accepted. —*Japan Mail*.

TRADE DISPUTE AT NEWCHANG.

The correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing from Newchwang on the 6th inst. says—

A dispute has arisen between the Southern merchants and the Northern firms through whom they buy and sell, import and export goods, which threatens a total cessation of trade. The Northerners say that the present charges and commissions which have been in force for many years are now unremunerative, and owing to the depreciation of transfer-money, and the increased cost of the necessities of life, the Southern merchants have been submitted to their principals and rejected by them, on the ground that no change was necessary, that they are excessive, and will increase the cost of loading by about 15s. 500 per steamer, and that it will be impossible for Southern merchants to make a living here, if they agree to any increase of the old terms. Both parties have positioned the slightest concession. The Southern firms, and finally not Messrs. Nesbitt, Bush, and Bapinell, at the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, on the 4th inst., when, after much discussion, they agreed to send a joint letter to the British firms represented by those gentlemen, stating their case in full. On receipt of this, the three firms sent in a joint letter to Mr. Hosie, the British Consul, enclosing the Chinese letter, and requesting him to communicate with the Taotai, and ask him to take steps to bring the dispute to an end and avert the danger to trade. Meantime, we believe that telegrams have been sent away to stop chartering for the present.

KIAOCHOW.

The writer of "Notes on Local Topics" in the *Shanghai Mercury* thus delivers himself on Kiaochow—

"Germany is making her influence something more than a sphere. A sphere of influence is all very well; but the influence of her sphere will be something better. Personally, I have been an advocate of the 'gunboat' policy every time. As the Americans say, what is the use of talking Choctaw to a man who only understands Pawnee? Where is the reason in employing moral suasion when nothing but force has any effect? Kiaochow will before long be a credit to the Fatherland. The authorities there evidently have a plan which they mean to carry out. There is to be no hand-to-hand policy, which waits events, but a modern modern policy for force. No left roads wide enough only for tea coolies to pass, but broad well-laid-out thoroughfares on a definite scale and under proper supervision."

For the moment there is one thing lacking—water, not so much in the bay as ashore. Even the German can't live entirely on lager. He needs the simpler liquid at times, and there is not enough of it at present. But modern science will doubtless laugh at little difficulties of that sort, and if there be a master of modern science anywhere, you may expect to find that he is either a High or a Low German."

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

A YANKEE OPINION.

NEW YORK, April 6th. The forthcoming conference at The Hague over the Czar's proposal to suspend further military armament by the nations is a topic of frequent discussion among members of the diplomatic corps in Washington. It is the general opinion that nothing definite will come of this sort, and if there be a master of modern science anywhere, you may expect to find that he is either a High or a Low German."

"Each day's news," he says, "makes a war more probable, and when one does come it will be a big one. I am unable to see why the nations should accept in all seriousness the propositions for peace from such a mad man as the Czar of Russia is well known to be. Why, even while making his protestations of peace, he is using every means to increase his war power, so when the crash that he well knows is inevitable, and which he is trying to ward off, does come, Russia will be able to hold her own, at least. Russia cannot afford to disarm, even were international peace assured. Her people are held in a slavery so abject that the condition of the negro slaves in the United States was bliss compared to it, and without the States was the Government would not last ten minutes. France also is on the brink of a precipice. If present developments are to be taken into consideration, China will be the first battle ground, and Poland will be the first while at least. China is now in about the same position as Poland was just before the partition of that country between Russia, Prussia and Austria. No reckoning in the Far East will be complete if Japan is left out. That country is just becoming a great power, and undoubtedly intend to have a hand in any partition of China. In addition to that, she has never forgiven Russia for her part in the Chinese-Japanese war, and is waiting for a chance to even up matters."

A MARITIME MYSTERY.

The *Scipio*, a craft from nowhere, flying no flag, and with a crewless, it is to be said, says *N. Y. Times*, to the highest bidder at the Brooklyn Navy Yard by the United States Government. A board has been appointed to examine the ship, which lies at the yard. The board will determine as to how to dispose of her. The board will perform a similar duty with respect to the steamer *Nigara*, which is also at the Brooklyn yard. This was bought by the Government from the Ward line during the Spanish war.

At the outbreak of hostilities agents of this Government were engaged in buying ship and war munitions in England. The beginning of actual warfare found some of the deals incomplete. England being a neutral power, these incomplete deals could not be pushed through—that is to say, apparently not. Soon after the beginning of hostilities a steamship in perfect trim from stem to stern, with furnace fires burning, steam up, but without a soul on board, was found adrift off the coast of Newfoundland—found by a United States ship, too, oddly enough. The crewless ship was the *Scipio*. She flew no flag, and there was not so much as a scrap of paper to be found aboard her, to indicate where she sailed from, where she was sailing to, or who owned her. She was a mystery of the deep. The *Scipio* carried a cargo of coal, but never did such strange things come out of a cargo of coal as came from the depths of the anthracite piled in the hold. There were guns—fine modern affairs of English make—Maxims, Hotchkiss cannon, field pieces and other ordnance, together with ammunition. Just how the *Scipio* came to be found and what she has never been told officially. The *Scipio* has been at the Brooklyn Navy Yard since she was picked up adrift on the high seas.

Shipping.

STEAMERS.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"THALES."

Captain Hall, will be despatched for the above ports, TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFFRAK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 18th May, 1899. [670a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA."

Captain Douglas, will be despatched for the above ports, TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at 10 A.M.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAFFRAK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 18th May, 1899. [665a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.

THE Company's Steamship

"SUISANG."

Captain E. J. Todd, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 20th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1899. [657a]

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA & KOBE.

THE Steamship

"BIRCHTOR."

Captain Bellefleur, will be despatched as above on or about SATURDAY, the 20th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to DODWELL & Co., LIMITED.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [644a]

THE OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA, LIMITED.

REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICE TO SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Steamship

"SUMIDAGAWA MARU."

Captain Namekata, will be despatched for the above ports, on SUNDAY, the 21st instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, Agents.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1899. [649a]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

(Calling at TIMOR, PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AUSTRALIAN."

Captain Helms, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 23rd instant, at 4 P.M.

This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage.

This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric-light.

A Stewardess and a duly-qualified Surgeon are carried.

N.B.—Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1899. [651a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Steamship

"UNDAUNTED."

will be despatched for the above port, on or about the 24th instant; to be followed by the S.S. BENLOMOND about 3rd June.

For Freight, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [547a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR NAGASAKI AND KOBE.

THE Company's Steamship

"TAIYUAN."

Captain Nelson, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 25th instant.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [667a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE British Steamship

"VORTIGERN."

Captain Fairweather, will be despatched for the above port, on or about the 27th instant.

To be followed by the S.S. "MACDUFF" and S.S. "AFRIDI," at Short Intervals.

For Freight, apply to DODWELL & Co., LIMITED.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1899. [546a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN.

THE Company's Steamship

"NANCHANG."

Captain Finlayson, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 1st June.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [671a]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL.

THE Company's Steamship

"HECTOR."

Captain Barr, will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 2nd June.

For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [666a]

Consignees.

UNITED STATES AND CHINA JAPAN STEAMSHIP LINE.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM NEW YORK AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"INDRAPURA."

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo by her, are hereby informed that their goods, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited, at Kowloon, whence delivery may be obtained.

Cargo remaining undelivered after the 19th instant, will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

Consignees are requested to present all claims for damages and/or shortages not later than the 26th instant, otherwise they will not be recognised.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [643a]

AUSTRIAN LLOYD'S STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM TRIESTE, Fiume, PORT SAID, ADEN, KARRACHI, BOMBAY, PENANG & SINGAPORE.

THE Steamship

"VINDOBONA."

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

This vessel brings cargo from Trieste, ex S.S. *Imperatrice* transhipped at Bombay.From Venice, ex S.S. *Massimiliano* and *Carlotta* transhipped at Trieste.

Optional cargo will be discharged here unless notice to the contrary be given immediately.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent in to the office of the Undersigned before Noon on the 19th instant, or they will not be recognised.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 17th instant, will be subject to rent.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SANDER, WIELER & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [630a]

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

FROM GLASGOW, AND LIVERPOOL.

THE Company's Steamship

"KINTUCK."

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their goods, are being landed at their risk into the Godowns of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited, whence delivery may be obtained.

No Claims will be admitted after the Goods have left the Godowns, and all Claims must be sent in to the Office of the Undersigned before Noon on the 17th instant, or they will not be recognised.

All broken, chafed, and damaged Goods are to be left in the Godowns, where they will be examined on the 17th instant.

No Fire Insurance has been effected, and any Goods remaining in the Godowns after the 17th instant, will be subject to rent.

Optional Goods will be landed here unless instructions are given to the contrary before Noon, TO-DAY.

Bills of Lading will be countersigned by HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 13th May, 1899. [648a]

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES.

"GLEN" LINE OF STEAMERS.

FROM ANTWERP, MIDDLESBORO, LONDON AND STRAITS.

THE Steamship

"GLENLOCHY."

having arrived from the above ports, Consignees of cargo are hereby informed that their goods are being landed and placed at their risk in the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company's Godowns at Kowloon, where each consignment will be sorted out mark by mark and delivery can be obtained as soon as the Goods are landed.

Optional cargo will be carried on unless instructions are given to the contrary before 4 P.M., TO-DAY.

Goods not cleared by the 23rd instant will be subject to rent.

No Fire Insurance has been effected.

All damaged packages must be left in the Godowns where they will be examined on the 23rd instant.

All claim must reach the Undersigned before the 25th instant, or they will be recognised.

MCGREGOR BROS. & CO.

Hongkong, 16th May, 1899. [663a]

Intimations.

NOTICE.

THE OFFICES of the "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" have this day been removed to No. 50, QUEEN'S ROAD, CENTRAL, Second Floor, (the premises formerly occupied by Messrs. POWELL & Co.) to which address all communications should be addressed.

Eth. F. SKERTCHLY, Manager.

Hongkong, 1st May, 1899.

F. BLACKHEAD & CO.,
SHIP-CHANDLERS, SAILMAKERS,
COAL AND PROVISION MERCHANTS,
NAVAL CONTRACTORS
AND GENERAL COMMISSION AGENTS.
PRAYA CENTRAL HONGKONG,
SOAP MANUFACTURERS.

A CHINESE LOVE STORY.

A CURIOUS CASE.

In the Mixed Court, Shanghai, on the 12th inst. an interesting story of love and hate was heard. The proceedings were the outcome of a love affair which had been going on for some years, and which had culminated in one man being sentenced to two hundred blows and the other to a month's imprisonment. For Chay Yuen, a strolling actor, was arrested by a Municipal Council detective on March 21st last at the instance of a Chinese merchant named Ching Ching-kwei, taken to the Louisa Station, and subsequently confined in the Mixed Court. After being locked up for three days and nights the Magistrate, Mr. Chang's Deputy, put the actor on his trial, together with the concubine. It was between eight and nine in the evening and as there were so many actors and others around, the Magistrate, postponing the hearing till 11 o'clock at night, when he ordered the girl to receive 100 blows on her back. The actor, however, begged the Magistrate to let the girl go, and inflict a double punishment upon him. His entreaties were so pressed that as the girl was about to receive her hundred blows on her back the magistrate ordered her to receive one hundred blows on the face instead and then go to her husband. The amorous actor was then given his two hundred blows and sent off to the jail. It appears that the other actors in the Chinese Theatres within the Settlement took the matter up, and the result was an application yesterday for the imprisoned actor's release, or that inasmuch as the proceedings had been irregular, a re-hearing of the case should take place.

After argument by the attorneys the prosecutor, Ching Ching Yuen, stated that about ten years ago he bought the concubine in question for \$1,000. He paid her down for her, and then went to live in the Fukien Road. Subsequently he moved to a place immediately behind the Louisa Police Station. He knew the actor, but had never spoken to him. On the evening of March 7th he knocked at the back door, and the servant opened it. Going to the room next to that occupied by the amah he knocked and found it locked. He knocked a second time, and presently the concubine opened the door. She was partially dressed, and noticing that he walked hurriedly into another room. At first he saw nothing to surprise him, but eventually to his great surprise the prisoner made his appearance and struck out at him. He had not the slightest idea that the girl was inconstant until his ricksha man told him. When he asked her she started throwing the articles of furniture all over the floor. She got hold of his *gown* and said she would stake her life against his at any time. At that time he was sitting on the bed and the actor ran out and slapped him in the face. He then said "I must have this woman for she is mine. I have spent a lot of money on her, and both her and her children belong to me."

The Magistrate at this stage shook his fan at the prisoner and said "You ought to be ashamed of yourself, taking away another man's wife."

The prosecutor also stated that the prisoner threatened him with a knife.

The Magistrate (Shaking his fist at the prisoner.) "What do you mean by it?" Continuing the witness stated that he only had one residence within the Settlement, and in that he kept his wife upstairs, and his concubine downstairs. Both women were not on good terms, but the reason was unexplainable. He often went to the theatre at night, and sometimes took the concubine. He used to see the actor, but only knew him by sight. It therefore came as a thorough surprise to see that he had when dining at the restaurant sent his ricksha man round to his house to see when the actor made his appearance. He had spent a lot of money on the girl; in fact everything necessary had been given her, but he did not know whether the actor had spent money upon her lavishly. He paid over \$100 monthly to both of the women.

The prisoner said he was an actor, earning \$200 a month. He had while taking his part on the stage repeatedly seen the girl, and had made her acquaintance five years ago. He used to visit her about ten or twenty times a month, and the prisoner knew it. Indeed the latter used to visit him in the green room and they often used to go out to supper and entertain each other. The prosecutor knew fully well four years ago that he had relations with the girl.

The Magistrate (to prisoner): You ought to be ashamed of yourself stealing another man's wife (laughter).

The prosecutor recalled, said that before he purchased the girl he used to go to the theatre very often, but after his prize had been won he did not visit that place of entertainment. It was impossible for him to find out why his wife and concubine were not on good terms for he gave them all the necessities they needed.

The ricksha coolie employed by the prosecutor stated that on the night of the disturbance at the house he went to call his master, who was at a restaurant in the Foochow Road—his mistress had told him to do so, as she felt very bad and wanted to see him. When he told his master the latter hurried away to the house only to find the actor there.

The Magistrate here jumped up from his chair, shook his fan at the prisoner, and said he was very angry to think that a man should enter into another man's house during his absence. Inspector Wilson said he had been fifteen or sixteen years in Police service, and he knew characters.

The Magistrate shaking his fan towards the prisoner—Isn't one wife enough for you?

The Interpreter: The Magistrate says he does not like to hear of it. His anger rises, and his temper gets up.

A young lady witness stated she had been 13 years in married life, and although she had seen the concubine in question she did not know her intimately.

Counsel addressed the Court and eventually Mr. Mayers, the Assessor, stated that the Magistrate had been advised by him and had determined to accept his advice and send the prisoner to the Chinese City to be dealt with by the Chinese authorities.

KHARTOUM'S GOVERNOR.

Brevet Colonel J. G. Maxwell, who is to be the new Governor of Khartoum, entered the army quite twenty years ago as a Lieutenant in the Black Watch. He served with his regiment at the battle of Tel-el-Kebir, and has been in Egypt and the Sudan ever since. From 1883 to 1885 he was a staff captain of the Egyptian military police, and was employed in the Nile Expedition of 1884-5. Since 1886 Colonel Maxwell has been specially employed with the Egyptian Army, and in 1890 he accompanied the expedition to Dongola in command of the 3rd Infantry Brigade. Again he was mentioned in despatches and received brevet promotion. In 1897 he was placed in command of the 1st Sudanese Division, and on the outbreak of the Sudan War he was transferred to the command of the 1st and 2nd Sudanese Divisions.

THE GREAT REVIEW AT PEKING.

We (*China Gazette*) understand that the determination of the Empress Dowager and the Generalissimo, Junglu, to hold their big review of 200,000 braves at Peking this month is likely to lead China into very serious trouble if not abandoned. The various Legations have already pointed out the dangers of such a gathering and it is reported that there is a whole army corps ready at Port Arthur to be despatched to Peking in the event of the review being held and disorder or danger to foreigners ensuing.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

The use of wireless telegraphy as a means of communicating from lightships to the shore in case of shipwreck was put to its first practical test on March 11th. The barquentine *Elbe* went ashore at the south end of Goodwin Sands, and the South Goodwin light vessel fired distress signals; a thick fog prevailing at the time. The signals were heard on the East Goodwin lightship, where a wireless telegraph apparatus is fixed, and a message was sent by that means to the South Foreland lightship, whence telegraphic messages were passed on to Kingsdown and Ramsgate for lifeboats on to put out. At Ramsgate, however, the South Goodwin's signals and also those from the Gull lightship, had been heard, and the lifeboats had already started, but the *Elbe* had floated before the lifeboats arrived. It often happens that when the wind is blowing off shore the guns on the lightship cannot be heard on land, and it is in such cases that wireless telegraphy would be of inestimable service in saving life and property.

Perhaps the most important demonstration of so far made has been the impossibility of exploding a magazine on board a modern ship by means of the electric wave. In the first place it would be necessary to have an operator on board the ship to be destroyed and even then it would be impossible to transmit the wave through iron. Placing the instrument in an iron cage will prevent the waves from reaching their destination and a zinc screen also stops them. On account of the length of the waves, their energy is absorbed differently by different substances. Thus water and metal absorb all their energy; glass absorbs nearly all, and paraffin and hard rubber absorb hardly any. Thus they move through hard rubber and paraffin as light moves through air, glass or water; that is to say, with hardly any resistance; while glass lets very little of them through, and metal and water are impervious to them. It is estimated that the waves travel at the rate of 186,000 miles a second. At this rate they reach the sun in eight minutes. Military authorities state it is possible to fire guns 500 yards away by means of a spark thrown that distance.

LIQUID FUEL AT SHANGHAI.

The arrival of the steamer *Trigonia* with a cargo of petroleum fuel will probably prove of the utmost importance to this already smoky laden city, says the *N. C. Daily News*. This fuel has been tried here with great success already, and its benefits are more fully appreciated there will be doubtless an enormous demand for it. Its principal merit is that, properly consumed, it is smokeless; that weight for weight it is about the same price as the best Japanese coal at present prices and gives two-thirds more heat. Its other advantages are that it is more easily handled, requires fewer hands at the furnaces, and leaves no residue. The Cotton Mill and Silk Filature Companies have evidently taken the subject in hand, for the Soochow Cotton Mill has already one of its boilers fitted with oil-using furnaces and will soon have the remainder similarly adjusted, and a number of others likewise interested are making arrangements for the conversion of their plant. Messrs. S. C. Farnham and Co. are building a steam-launch for the Agents (Messrs. Arnold, Karberg & Co.) which is also designed for oil consumption.

THE "BENJAMIN SEWELL" CASE.

The inquiry into the charges against Captain Arthur Sewell and Chief Officer Harvey, of the American ship *Benjamin Sewell*, in connection with the disappearance of one of the crew, and the discovery of the body of a drowned man on the shore in Penang harbour, closed on Wednesday, 26th April, by the defendants being committed for trial at the next Assizes. The bail was enlarged to \$2,500 in two sureties, Counsel for the defence, applied for an early date to be fixed for the trial. Judge ordered the case to be on for the opening on Friday, 28th April. A discussion then ensued between Mr. Adams, defendants Counsel, and the Solicitor-General as to whether the police had the right to prevent the two accused, who are out on bail, from leaving the settlement. Mr. Adams ultimately gave formal notice to the Solicitor-General that the ship would leave for Singapore on the following Wednesday, and challenged him to take any steps to prevent it.

LAKE KAWAGUCHI.

Another correspondent writes about what he calls, with apparent justice, a foolish scheme, namely, the draining of Kawaguchi Lake, and the conversion of its bed into rice-fields. If the plan is carried out, it can scarcely fail to be a loss to the lake, and to the people who regard it as the most beautiful in Japan. Whether it deserves such a very high eulogy we do not know, but certainly it has scenic charms of the highest type, and its effacement would be an infinitely regrettable act from that point of view alone. Then there is the practical question. Undoubtedly a lake situated at an altitude of 3,800 feet must have a great effect on the water supply of the surrounding country. As a matter of fact, the streams of the Fujiyama Valley are almost entirely dependent upon the lakes of which the Kawaguchi sheet of water is one, and a small difference in the level of the lakes means a great difference in the volume of water received by the streams. The point of much importance is that it should be carefully investigated before any project for the draining of the lake is permitted. Then, again, the water of the lake would have to be run into the Banyu-gawa, a river which already works havoc in Kanagawa Prefecture. In times of flood, one of its frequent feats being to wash away the railway at Hiratsuka. Suppose that the volume of water now earned off by the Banyu-gawa be augmented by the contents of a lake 3 miles long, three quarters of a mile wide, and subject to rises of from 10 to 15 feet in 48 hours, can there be any doubt that the river's floods would acquire destructive potentialities such as might cost Kanagawa Prefecture more in one season than the people who drained the lake would obtain in a century? Indeed, the profit derivable from such a reclamation might be illusory; for the bed of the lake seems to be chiefly lava, rocky quite unfit for purposes of agriculture. The scheme appears to be a wild and rash venture to suppose that it will not be finally sanctioned. Japan Mail.

TRADE DISPUTE AT NEWCHANG.

The correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing from Newchwang on the 5th inst. says:—A dispute has arisen between the Southern merchants and the Northern firms through whom they buy and sell import and export goods, which threatens a total cessation of trade. The Northerners say that the present charges and commissions which have been in force for many years are now unremunerative owing to the depreciation of transfer money, and the increased cost of the necessities of life. The Southerners say the proposed new charges and commissions have been submitted to their principals and rejected by them, on the ground that no change was necessary, that they are excessive, and will increase the cost of loading by about 150 per cent, and that it will be impossible for Southern merchants to make a living here, if they agree to any increase of the old terms. Both parties have petitioned the Taotai and neither seems inclined to make the slightest concession. The Southerners appealed for assistance to the foreign shipping firms, and finally met Messrs. Neabitt, Bush, and Bandinel, at the office of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire, on the 4th inst., when, after much discussion, they agreed to send a joint letter to the British firms represented by those gentlemen stating their case in full. On receipt of this, the three firms sent in a joint letter to Mr. Hosie, the British Consul, enclosing the Chinese letter, and requesting him to communicate with the Taotai, and ask him to take steps to bring the dispute to an end and avert the danger to trade. Meantime we believe that telegrams have been sent away to stop chartering for the present.

KIAOCHOW.

The writer of "Notes on Local Topics" in the *Shanghai Mercury* thus delivers himself on Kiaochow:—

Germany is making her influence something more than a sphere. A sphere of influence is all very well; but the influence of other spheres will be something better. Personally I have been an advocate of the "gunboat" policy every time. As the Americans say, what is the use of talking Chocktail to a man who only understands Pawnee? Where is the reason in employing moral suasion when nothing but force has any effect? Kiaochow will before long be a credit to the Fatherland. The authorities there evidently have a plan which they mean to carry out. There is to be no hand-to-the-mouth policy which waits events that even a modern prophet could foresee. No soft road wide enough only for tea coolies to pass, but broad well-laid-out thoroughfares on a definite scale and under proper supervision.

For the moment there is one thing lacking—water, not so much in the bay as ashore. Even the German can't live entirely on lager. He needs the simpler liquid at times, and there is not enough of it at present. But modern science will doubtless laugh at little difficulties of that sort, and if there be a master of modern science anywhere, you may expect to find that he is either a High or a Low German.

THE PEACE CONFERENCE.

A YANKEE OPINION.

NEW YORK, April 6th. The forthcoming conference at The Hague over the Czar's proposal to suspend further military armament by the nations is a topic of frequent discussion among members of the diplomatic corps in Washington. It is the general opinion that nothing definite will come of the conference. One of the prominent diplomats thinks the time most inopportune, believing that prospects are much better for a general war than for universal peace.

"Each day's news," he says, "makes a war more probable, and when one does come it will be a big one. I am unable to see why the nations should accept in any seriousness the propositions for peace from such a mad man as the Czar of Russia is well known to be. Why, even while making his protestations for peace, he is using every means to increase his war power, so when the crash that he well knows is inevitable, and which he is trying to ward off, does come, Russia will be able to hold her own, at least. Russia cannot afford to disarm. Her people are in a state of slavery so subject that the condition of the negro slaves in the United States was bliss compared to it, and without an army the Government would not last ten minutes. France also is on the brink of a precipice. "If present developments are to be taken into consideration, China will be the first battle ground, and that long suffering country will have to bear the brunt of the battle, for a while at least. China is now in about the same position as Poland was just before the partition of that country between Russia, Prussia and Austria. No reckoning in the Far East will be complete if Japan is left out. That country is just becoming a great power, and undoubtedly intend to have a hand in any partition of China. In addition to that, she has never forgiven Russia for her part in the Chinese-Japanese war, and is waiting for a chance to even up matters."

A MARITIME MYSTERY.

The *Scipio*, a craft from nowhere, flying no flag, ownerless and crewless, is to be told, says *N. Y. Times*, to the highest bidder at the Brooklyn Navy Yard by the United States Government. A board has been appointed to examine the ship, which lies at the yard. The board will determine as to how to dispose of her. The board will perform a similar duty with respect to the steamer *Niagara*, which is also at the Brooklyn yard. This was bought by the Government from the Ward line during the Spanish war.

At the outbreak of hostilities agents of this Government were engaged in buying ship and war munitions in England. The beginning of actual warfare found some of the deals incomplete. England being a neutral power, these incomplete deals could not be pushed through—that is to say, apparently not. Soon after the beginning of hostilities a steamship in perfect trim from stem to stern, with furnace fires burning, steam up, but without a soul on board, was found adrift off the coast of Newfoundland—found by a United States ship, too, oddly enough. The crewless ship was the *Scipio*. She flew no flag, and there was not so much as a scrap of paper to be found aboard her to indicate where she sailed from, where she was sailing to or who owned her. She was a mystery of the deep. The *Scipio* carried a cargo of coal, but never did such strange things come out of a cargo of coal as came from the depths of the anthracite piled in the hold. There were guns—fine modern affairs of English make—Maxims, Hotchkiss cannon, field pieces and other ordnance, together with ammunition. Just how the *Scipio* came to be found adrift with such an armament is a mystery. A United States ship has never been told officially. The *Scipio* was picked up adrift on the 11th June.

STEAMERS.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOCHOW. THE Company's Steamship

"THALES." Captain Hall, will be despatched for the above ports, TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at 10 A.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 18th May, 1899. [670a]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR AMOY AND TAMSUI. THE Company's Steamship

"FORMOSA." Captain Douglas, will be despatched for the above ports, TO-MORROW, the 19th instant, at 10 A.M. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LARRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 18th May, 1899. [665a]

INDO-CHINA STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA. THE Company's Steamship

"SUISANG." Captain E. J. Tadd, will be despatched as above on SATURDAY, the 20th instant, at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 16th May, 1899. [657a]

FOR SHANGHAI, YOKOHAMA & KOBE. THE Steamship

"BIRCHTOR." Captain Belleine, will be despatched as above on or about SATURDAY, the 20th instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to DODWELL & CO., LIMITED. Agents. Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [642a]

THE OSAKA SHOSHEN KAISHA, LIMITED.

REGULAR WEEKLY SERVICE TO SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI. THE Steamship

"SUMIDAGAWA MARU." Captain Namekata, will be despatched for the above ports, on SUNDAY, the 21st instant, at Daylight.

For Freight or Passage, apply to THE MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA, Agents. Hongkong, 15th May, 1899. [649a]

EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE. (Calling at TIMOR, PORT DARWIN & QUEENSLAND PORTS, and taking through Cargo to ADELAIDE, NEW ZEALAND, TASMANIA, &c.)

THE Steamship

"AUSTRALIAN." Captain Helms, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 23rd instant, at 4 P.M. This well-known Steamer is specially fitted for Passengers, and has a Refrigerating Chamber which ensures the supply of Fresh Provisions, Ice, &c., throughout the voyage. This Steamer is installed throughout with the Electric-light.

A Stewardess and a duly-qualified Surgeon are carried. Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA, are available for return by the Steamers of the CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY and vice versa.

For Freight or Passage, apply to GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 15th May, 1899. [651a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL. THE Steamship

"UNDAUNTED." will be despatched for the above port, on or about SATURDAY, the 20th instant, to be followed by the S.S. "BENLOMOND" about 3rd June. For Freight, apply to SHEWAN, TOMES & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 12th May, 1899. [547a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR NAGASAKI AND KOBE. THE Company's Steamship

"TAIYUAN." Captain Nelson, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 25th instant. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [667a]

FOR NEW YORK VIA SUEZ CANAL. THE British Steamship

"VORTIGERN." Captain Fairweather, will be despatched for the above port, on or about the 27th instant. To be followed by the S.S. "MACDUFF" and S.S. "AFRIDI," at Short Intervals. For Freight, apply to DODWELL & CO., LIMITED. Agents. Hongkong, 13th May, 1899. [656a]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR TIENTSIN. THE Company's Steamship

"NANCHANG." Captain Finlayson, will be despatched as above on THURSDAY, the 1st June. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [671a]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON VIA SUEZ CANAL. THE Company's Steamship

"HECTOR." Captain Barr, will be despatched on FRIDAY, the 2nd June. For Freight or Passage, apply to BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents. Hongkong, 17th May, 1899. [664a]

UNITED STATES STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

NOTICE TO AGENTS.

FROM NEW YORK AND SAN FRANCISCO. THE Steamship

"IN DRAGON." having arrived from New York, the 15th inst., signs of cargo by her. The goods are being landed at the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf and are subject to risk into the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf and are subject to risk into the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf. Cargo remaining unclaimed after 15th inst., will be subject to sale. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Consignees are requested to forward claims for damages and losses within 10 days of the date of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by JARDINE, MATHESON & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 12th May, 1899.

AUSTRIAN LLOYD STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. FROM TRIESTE, FUME, PORT SAUD, ADEN, KARRACHI, PENANG & SINGAPORE. THE Steamship

"VINDOBONA." having arrived from Trieste, the 15th inst., signs of cargo by her. The goods are being landed at the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf and are subject to risk into the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf. Cargo remaining unclaimed after 15th inst., will be subject to sale. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Consignees are requested to forward claims for damages and losses within 10 days of the date of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by SANDER, WILKIE & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 12th May, 1899.

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES. FROM GLASGOW AND LIVERPOOL. THE Company's Steamship

"GLENGLASS." having arrived from Glasgow, the 15th inst., signs of cargo by her. The goods are being landed at the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf and are subject to risk into the Godown at the Kowloon Wharf. Cargo remaining unclaimed after 15th inst., will be subject to sale. No Fire Insurance has been effected. Consignees are requested to forward claims for damages and losses within 10 days of the date of arrival, otherwise they will not be recognized. Bills of Lading will be countersigned by GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co., Agents. Hongkong, 13th May, 1899.

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

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Intimations.

LET 'EM ALL COME TO

YEE CHUN'S STUDIO

30, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL, where PHOTOGRAPHS and PORTRAITS on IVORY are executed at Moderate Prices. Hongkong, 2nd May, 1899. [596a]

THE CHINA & JAPAN TELEPHONE COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG EXCHANGE, OPEN DAY AND NIGHT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

EXCHANGE LINES, \$80 Per Annum.

PRIVATE LINES, \$100 Per Annum.

NO CHARGE FOR INSTALLATION.

N.B.—A special charge is made for lines of more than average length.

ELECTRIC SUPPLIES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION IN STOCK, INCLUDING:—

BATTERIES,

CHEMICALS,

ELECTRIC BELLS,

INSULATORS,

LIGHTNING CONDUCTORS,

SWITCHES,

TELEPHONES,

WIRE, &c., &c.,

PRICE LISTS ON APPLICATION.

ELECTRIC BELL INSTALLATIONS, Erected and kept in order.

Estimates given for all kinds of Electrical work.

Trained Mechanics sent to Out-Ports to fit up Installations if required.

NOTE ADDRESS:—13, PRAYA CENTRAL.

For full particulars &c., &c.,

Apply to

W. STUART HARRISON,

Manager.

Hongkong, 18th January, 1899. [133]

For Sale.

NOW READY.

HONGKONG RACES, 1899.

THE "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH'S" ACCOUNT OF THE

1899 RACE MEETING

with TABULATED STATEMENTS OF PLACED and UNPLACED PONIES, JOCKEYS and OWNERS.

PRICE 50 CENTS.

Only a limited Number printed.

Send Orders early to

The Manager,

"HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" Office,

50, Queen's Road Central.

Hongkong, 6th March, 1899.

The Share Market.

LATEST QUOTATIONS.

(May 18th.)

Banks.

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation

200, per cent. prem.

The Bank of China & Japan, Ltd.—(Preference)

100, per cent. prem.

The Bank of China & Japan, Ltd.—(Ordinary)

100, per cent. prem.

The Bank of China & Japan, Ltd.—(Deferred)

100, per cent. prem.

National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$25.

Do. Do. Do. \$25.

Marine Insurance.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$225

buyers.

China Indemnity Insurance Co., Limited—\$614.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$118.

Yantai Insurance Assoc. Ltd.—\$114.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$1423

buyers.

Strait Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$44.

Fire Insurance.

Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.—\$310.

China Fire Ins. Co., Ltd.—\$32.

Shipping.

Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamship Co.,

Limited—\$29.

Indo-China Steam Navigation Company, Ltd.—

\$58.

China and Manila S.S. Co., Ltd.—\$78.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$261.

China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd.—(Preference)—

\$940 buyers.

China Mutual S. N. Co., Ltd.—(Ordinary)—

\$510 buyers.

Star Ferry Co., Ltd.—\$14.

Bethelias.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$174.

Luron Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$53.

Mining.

Patent Mining Co., Ltd.—\$78.

Preference Shares—\$100.

Societe Francaise des Charbonnages du Ton-

kin—\$100.

Queen Mines, Limited—\$55.

Jebeu Mining and Trading Co., Ltd.—\$10.

Raub Allain Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$59.

Oliver's Freehold Mines, Ltd.—(A) \$7.

Oliver's Freehold Mines, Ltd.—(B) \$4.

Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining

Co., Ltd.—\$440.

Docks, Wharves and Godowns.

Hongkong & Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$32.

per cent. prem.

Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown

Company, Limited—\$86.

Wanchai Warehouse and Storage Co., Ltd.—\$41.

New Amoy Dock Co., Ltd.—\$15.

Land, Hotels and Buildings.

China Provident Loan and Mortgage Co., Ltd.—

\$975.

Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co.,

Ltd.—\$81.

Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd.—\$24

buyers.

West Point Building Co., Ltd.—\$28.

Hongkong Hotel Co., Ltd.—\$87.

Humphrey's Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—

\$10.

Miscellaneous.

Green Island Cement Co., Ltd.—\$24.

China Borneo Co., Limited—In liquidation.

A. S. Watson & Co., Limited—\$14.

Hongkong Electric Co., Limited—\$118.

Hongkong and China Gas Co., Ltd.—\$126.

Hongkong Rope Manufacturing Co., Ltd.—\$170.

Geo. Fenwick & Co., Ltd.—\$35.

Hongkong Ice Co., Ltd.—\$112.

Hongkong High Level Tramways Co., Ltd.—

\$142.

Dairy Farm Co., Limited—\$31.

Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Limited—\$1

nominal.

Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$5.

Carmichael & Co., Limited—\$8.

Hongkong Cotton, Spinning, Weaving and

Dyeing Co., Ltd.—\$85.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—\$15.

International Cotton Mfg. Co., Ltd.—\$15.

Laou-kung-mow Cotton Spinning & Weaving

Co., Ltd.—\$15.

Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—\$15.

Yahong Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—\$15.

Yehau Planting Co., Ltd.—\$3 per share.

Tebrau Planting Co., Ltd.—\$5.

BENJAMIN KELLY & POTTS (Share Brokers.)

Telephone Address—"Rialto."

Exchange.

Hongkong, 18th May.

ON LONDON, Telegraphic Transfer, 1/11

Bank Bills, on demand, 1/11 1/16

Credits, 4 months' sight, 2/0

Diments, 4 months' sight, 2/0 1/2

ON BERLIN, (demand) M.20 1/2

ON PARIS, Bank Bills, on demand, 2/48

Credits, 4 months' sight, 2/52

ON NEW YORK, Bank Bills, on demand, 47 1/2

Credits, 30 days' sight, 48 1/2

ON BOMBAY, Telegraphic Transfer, 14 1/2

ON SHANGHAI, Telegraphic Transfer, 14 1/2

Private, 30 days' sight, 7 3/4

ON YOKOHAMA, T.T., 1/11 per cent. prem.

Sovereigns, Bank's Buying Rate, \$100

Gold Leaf 100 touch, per tael, \$27 1/2

Bar Silver, \$28 1/2

Persian, paper, \$28 1/2

Dollars, 2 per cent. prem.

OPIMUM QUOTATIONS.

Hongkong, 18th May.

New Patna, 745 per chest.

Old, 705

New Benares, 737 1/2

New Malwa, credit, 700 per picul.

(Allouance, 100 lbs.)

Old Malwa, credit, 750/820.

Persian, paper, 690/770

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Mr. J. H. Aitken

Mr. John Angus

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Mr. B. J. Barlow

Mr. Beatty and child

Mr. W. J. Blackhall

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Mr. W. Parmenter

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Mrs. Payne

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Mr. L. Peck

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Rennie

Mr. S. J. Robins

Mr. C. Sherrington

Mr. P. Sick

Mr. H. Simmins

Mrs. Sutcliffe

Mr. Cavendish Taylor

Miss Cavendish Taylor

Mr. O. Tibbitt

Mr. J. Uidall

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Whiteley

Miss Whitley

Mrs. Bagnall Wild

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PEAK HOTEL.

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Mr. H. R. Hardcastle

Lieut. R. P. Hobson,

U.S.N.

Staff-Surgeon W. E.

Home

Capt. G. A. Callaghan,

R.N.

Mr. G. J. Chapman

Mr. John D. Hutchinson

Capt. and Mrs. A. C.

Clarke, R.N.

Mr. J. E. Lee

Mr. C. W. Longuet

Miss Macier

Mr. G. H. Dann

Mr. S. A. Mitchell

Mr. S. A. Oliver

Hon. H. E. Pollock

Capt. H. V. Prynn

Col. G. J. H. Evans

Mr. F. Ryan

Comdr. Cresswell

J. J. Sinclair

Mr. A. G. Stokes

Mr. Cavendish Taylor

Miss C. Taylor

Mr. and Mrs. E. H.

Webb

Mr. G. H. Wheeler

Mr. H. Wicking

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